SONG For The Tribune You know the old Hidalgo, (His box is next to ours) Who threw the prima donna The wreath of orange flowers He owns the half of Arragon, With mines beyond the main: A very encient nobleman, And gentleman of Spain.

They swear that I must wed him, in spite of yea, or nav. Though uglier than the Scaramouch, The specter in the play : But I will sooner die a maid Than wear a gilded chain, For all the ancient noblemen And gentlemen of Spain!

R. H. STODDARD.

MEXICAN WAR By Lieut RAPHAEL SEMMES.—

NO. pp. 479. Cincinnati: Wm. H. Moore & Co. Sold

by Charles Scribner.

This is the production of an officer in the United States Navy, who was attached to the Home Squadron at the breaking out of the late war between this country and Mexico. After the surrendry of Vera Cruz, he was dispatched as a special agent to the seat of the Mexican Government to negotiate concerning the exchange of prisoners. During this mission, he joined the army of Gen. Scott at Jalapa, soon after the bartle of Cerro Gordo, and at Puebla became at. tached to the staff of Gen. Worth, as a volunteer aid. He marched with Gen. Worth to the valley of Mexico, and remained a member of his military family until the entrance of the American army into the capital of the enemy. With a strong partiality for Gen. Worth, the writer describes the events of the campaign which resulted in the estrangement of that officer from the commander-in-chief, criticising the military operations in a decided partisan spirit, but with evident ability. The volume is introduced with geographical and historical sketches of Mexico, which furnish no novel information to the general reader, and which are prepared with but slight expenditure of talent and research. In his original descriptions, Lieut. Semmes is more successful. Many of these are drawn with great felicity. He is a lively and spirited narrator. His battle-sketches are extremely vivid, and pro duce a deep impression on the imagination. His pictures of social and domestic life in Mexico are apparently true to nature, and present the attractions of a romance. We take the following extract from the account of

THE STORMING OF VERA CRUZ. About midnight, I wandered to a small eminence, in the neighborhood of our battery, to look forth upon the scene. It was perfectly calm. The fleet ut Sacrificios was just visible through the gloom, and was sleeping quietly at its anchors, without other eight of life, than a solitary light burning at the gaffend of the commodore. The castle of San Juan de sign of life, than a solitary light burning at the gam-end of the commodore. The castle of San Juan de Ulloa, magnified out of all proportion by the uncer-tain starlight, and looking ten times more somber and defiant than ever, appeared to enjoy equal re-pose. Even the sea seemed to have gone to sleep, after the turnoil of the recent norther, as the only sound that reached the ear, from that direction, was after the turmoil of the recent norther, as the only sound that reached the ear, from that direction, was a faint, very faint murmur, hoarse and plaintive, as the lazy swell, with scarcely energy enough to break, stranded itself on the beach. The cricket and the catydid, and myriads of other insects—the south is the land of insects—chirruped in a sort of inharmomous melody, reminding one of his far-off home and of fireside scenes. But if nature was thus inclined to repose, man was not, for Death still held his carnival within the walls of the beleaguered city. Those horrid nortars of ours were in "awful activity." The demons incarnate, all begrined with powder and smoke, who served them at this midnight hour, having received a fresh snpply of shells and ammunition since the lull of the norther, seemed to re double their energies, to make up for their lazy day's work of yesterday. They gave the doomed city no respite, not even for a single moment, as the air was never without its tenant, winging its way on its errand of death. I sat and watched these missiles for an hour and more, and I shall never forget the awful scream, apparently proceeding from several feathers. work of yeasernay. They save the another toy no respite, not even for a single moment, as the air was never without its tenant, winging its way on its errand of death. I sat and watched these missiles for an hour and more, and I shall never forget the awful scream, apparently proceeding from several female voices, which came ringing on the night air, as one of those terrible engines of destruction exploided—carrying death and dismay, no doubt, to some family circle. No sight could have been more solemn and impressive—the imagination dwelling all the while on the awful tracedly which was being chacted—than the flight of those missiles through the air. The night was just dark enough to admit of their burning fuses being seen, as they traced those beautiful parabolas, peculiar to this kind of projectile. And then, the awful precision with which they would explose, called forth my constant admiration. They seemed to be held but a single second or less, behind the dark curtain of the city walls, before the terrible explosion—reverberated and magnified, as it passed through the streets, by the walls of the houses—would almost stut the car—I was only seven hundred yards off, and the humdity of the atmosphere was highly favorable to the passage of sound. Occasionally, several would be in the air at the same time—I counted as high as five on one occasion—chasing each other like playful metrors, and exploding in quick succession like a fen do not. We were astir, the next morning, at early dayfight—our botswain's mate having aroused all hands, in man-of-war fashion, with a shrill note from his "call"—silver whistle—and a voice resembling the growl of a grizzly bear. By sumrise, we were atour work, the seamen handling their long 32s and 6ss like toys, and the officers delivering their fire in quick succession, and in the right place. The enemy was not long in replying to us. The same three batteries that had handling their long 32s and to sum, which has decided upon us again to-day, apparently with renewed contents, the hi

too, to throw their shells with spirit, the whole constituted that "awful activity" described by the general-in-chief, in his dispatch.

About this time, an accident occurred, which had well nigh put an end to our breaching operations, in the navy battery. The castle, which, as I have remarked, had been shelling us at intervals, threw one of its thirteen inch bombs, with such precision that it lighted on the sand, not more than five paces in the rear of one of the guns. At about this distance in the rear of each piece, we had stationed a quarter-gunner, with a small copper tank, capable of holding eight or ten charges of powder—each charge weighing about ten pounds. The shell falling near one of these petty officers, he turned, upon hearing a noise behind him—he had not seen the shell fall—and finding a monstrous cannon ball there, as he thought, mechanically put his hand upon it. Finding it hot, it at once occurred to him what it was. It was too late to run, and in the consternation of the moment, like a drowning man who will grasp at a straw, he doubled himself up in a heap, and attempted to burrow humself, head foremost, in the sand, like an ostrich. All this occurred in the space of a second, and ma moment more, the shell exploded, with the noise of a thousand pieces of artillery, shaking the hattery like an earthquake, and covering the officers and seamen with clouds of dust and sand. Our fire was suspended for a moment, and when the smoke had cleared of sufficiently to enable us to distinguish objects, every officer looked around him in breathless anxiety, expecting to behold the blackened corpse, and mutilisted limbs of half his contrades at least. Strange to say, not a soul was hurt. Lieutenant Frailey had his hat badly wounded by a fragment of the shell, which carried away one-half of its rim. Even the quarter-gunner, who, on such short notice found it impossible to get down into the sand, and

who beside had had his copper tank blown up, with forty or fifty pounds of powder in it, had escaped un hurt—the fragments fortunately rising into the air, instead of spreading laterally. We continued our fire until two o'clock, P. M., when the enemy's hatteries all ceased, except now and then a random shot. The city was beaten; and on the same afternoon, we had the satisfaction of seeing a white flag pass into General Scott's camp—Washington.

"THE WORKS OF SHAKSPERE," edited by the Rev. H. N. Hupson. We have the first volume of this new Boston edition of Shakspere, published by James Munroe & Co., containing The Tempest. The Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Merry Wives of Windsor, and Twelfth Night. It is based on the celebrated Chiswick edition, of which in size of volume, type, and general style of execution, it aims to be an exact imitation. The duties of the American editor have been performed with the view of presenting the original text of Shakspere in the greatest possible purity, and to that end every line, every word, every letter and every point has been compared with the earliest editions, especially the folio of 1623. Each play is accompanied with an introduction and brief notes, in which the critical suggestiveness and the indefatigable research of the American editor, as well as his reverent admiration of Shakspere, are exhibited in a favorable light. In this respect his work will sustain a comparison greatly to his advantage, with any previous wraings which bear his name. Equally acute in conception, and individualistic in expression, with the former productions of Mr. Hudson, the original matter in this volume is remarkably free from the dogmatic insolence, the conceited affectations, and the truculent personalities which have made his name offensive to every reader of just and generous culture We can cordially recommend this edition as being admirably adapted to practical use. We hope the enterprise of the editor and the publishers will meet with a liberal support from the lovers of good literature. (Sold by C. S. Francis & Co.)

"ANALYTIC AND PHILOSOPHICAL GRAMMAR," by Joel Chapin. (24 mo. pp. 218. Sold by M. H. Newman & Co.) Another protest against the authority of Lindley Murray as an oracle of grammar. It abounds in ingenious philological analyses, which often present valuable suggestions. The author has evidently devoted himself with great zeal to the study of language, and many of his remarks are original and forcible. As a text-book, his work is deficient in clearness and simplicity, and exhibits a too rampant spirit of controversy. He frequently indulges in doubtful and unauthorized forms of expression, showing, that whatever may be his sagacity as a theorist, he has not attained a practical mastery of his native tongue. We think his grammar may be consulted to advantage by the student in philology, but it is not adapted to general use as a didactic treatise.

"THE HISTORY OF THE EMPRESS JOSE-PHINE," by JOHN S. C. ABBOTT, forms the concluding volume of the French Historical Series published by Harper & Brothers. It is an uncommonly interesting piece of biography, the author having invested the subject which has tempted so many pens, with the charm of his animated and transparent style, if not with the grace of absolute novelty. He presents the character of Josephine in a very favorable light strongly contrasting her affectionate and unselfish spirit with the unscrupulous ambition of Napoleon. This volume, with the lives of Marie Antoinette and Madame Roland, which have preceded it, composes a trio of historical portraits which are no less attractive on account of their subjects than the manner in which they are treated. No juvenile library especially should be without them.

"THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM AND THE ANVIL," for July, commences a new volume, u the editorial charge of F. G. SKINNER, the son of the late indefatigable conductor, whose agricultural writings have been of such wide benefit to the cause of American husbandry. This number is made up with excellent judgment, and promises no diminu tion of industry, zeal or ability, on account of the decease of its distinguished founder. We bespeak for the work the substantial patronage of the friends of agricultural improvement. (Philadelphia: R. C Thompson.)

COLLECTION OF COLLEGE WORDS AND CUSTOMS."-A book of rather curious interest to those naturalists who affect the study of the nondescript animal-an undergraduate of the American Colleges. The author has worked up his slender materials with rare adroitness, and produced a volume filled with odds and ends which are often not a little quaint and amusing. (12mo pp. 319. Cambridge: John Bartlett. Sold by C. S. Francis & Co.)

" CAMPAIGNS OF THE RIO GRANDE AND or Mexico," by Brevet-Major Isaac 1. Stevens, is a controversial pamphlet in defense of the officers and soldiers of the American Army in Mexico, who, in the opinion of the author, have been unjustly depreciated in the recent work on the subject by Major Ripley. It is written with fairness and moderation and with great dignity of style. (8vo. pp. 108. D Appleton & Co.)

"THE ODD FELLOWS' OFFERING," for 1852, is got up in its usual handsome style, with contributions from Benson J. Lossing, Street, Gilmore Simms, G. P. Morris, H. T. Tuckerman, Frederic Saunders, Mrs. Hewitt, Mrs. E. Oakes Smith, Mrs. Kirkland and others. Several of the articles possess uncommon merit. (8vo. pp. 320 Edward Walker.)

"FRUITS OF LEISURE," another votume of essays by the author of "Friends in Council." presenting the fruits of genial reflection and wide experience of life, in a style of racy, idiomatic English. The reprint of such works of tranquil wisdom may furnish a wholesome tonic to the morbid literature of the day. (12mo. pp. 133. Anson D. F. Randolph.)

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ART JOURNAL. for July, among other articles, contains an interest-ing account of a process by M. Niepce de St. Victor. a French artist, for coloring daguerreotype impres sions. It appears to be an important contribution to Photographic science, and will no doubt attract great attention from intelligent operators. (W. B.

THE PATRIARCHAL AGE; OR THE STORY OF JOSEPH," is the title of a work originally prepared for the pupils in the Girard College. I Oriental manners and customs, clothed in a neat and attractive style. (12mo. pp. 342. Philadelphia : R E. Peterson. Sold by Dewitt & Davenport.

TT "PALESTINE : ITS GEOGRAPHY AND BIBLE HISTORY," by F. G. HIBBERD, is a convenient manual for Biblical instruction, comprising a sucemet view of the geography of the Holy Land, and a general outline of its history. It is illustrated by twenty lithographic maps. (12mo. pp. 354. Lane & Scott.3

"The GERMAN IN AMERICA," by F W. Books, is the title of a small volume intended for German emigrants in this country, written in the German and English language, and containing many items of advice which may be of service to a stran ger. (24mo. pp. 177. Sold by Koch & Co.)

TF " My ADOPTED COUNTRY," a Poem. by GEORGE ROGERS. An effusion of enthusiastic patriotism, in whose fervor we fail to notice the fire of the author's poetry (12mo. pp. 74. J. C. Riker.)

FLAX COTTON .- The Utica Herald has an article from an eye-witness, who gives the following account of the manufacture of this article. He says it is "strong and fine as silk—white as snow says it is "strong and fine as silk—white as snow, bright as silver, receiving the strongest color or the most delicate tint with equal permanency. It is stronger, cheaper, and much more beautiful than cotton. It is worth at least twice as much cotton of the finest grade—will last twice as long; can be procured from the plant, after pulling, for six cents per pound, as fine as the specimen I give you, in six hours, no rotting, no angitang. Put it through the machinery and out it comes perfect. You may think this a tough story, but it is so." this a tough story, but it is so

FOURTH OF JULY AT LONDON Mr. Peabody's Festival. Correspondence of The Tribune.

Loxnes, Saturday, July 5, 1851. Times are changing; yea, verily are already somewhat changed. Signs, thick as blackberries, proclaim the fact that, although the eld rigime of isolation and antagonism has not abilicated, a new spirit is abroad in the world, and a new order of ideas stirring the minds of men. that people are beginning dimly to discern the worth of united effort, and to merge national prerudices in the desire of internation, cooperation and good will.

"Straws," says the ptoverb, "show which way the wind blows," and this assertion being undoubtedly true, the superb entertainment given vesterday, in honor of the national birth-day, to the American Minister, and Mrs. Lawrence, by George Peabody, Esq. the well-known American Banker, may, without exaggeration be mentioned as one among many other indications of this welcome change. For many years Mr. Pea-body has given a brilliant party on the Fourth of July, but hitherto the guests have been exclusively American; this year, however, internation ality being the order of the day, Mr. P. conceived the happy idea of extending his hospitality to the English also, thus uniting the representatives of the two great clans of rival cousins in a magnificent fête de famille.

The entertainment was given at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, the immense suites of apartments being decorated in the richest and most tasteful manner. But for the many other attractions of the evening, the affairs might almost have been styled "a Feast of Roses," for not only was the broad stair-case bordered with the gayest flowers from innumerable conservatories, but every lady, on entering the reception room, was presented with a handsome bouquet, and amid the American and British flags, gilded olive-boughs, and other emblematic devices with which the walls were hung, wreathes and gar-

lands of flowers were everywhere interspersed.

The fête opened at half-past nine, with a concert, to which Mile Cruvelli, Miss Catherine Hayes, the Lablaches, Gordoni and Sivori con-tributed their united talent. With such perormers it is needless to say that the concert

At eleven the company adjourned to the ballroom, a vast saloen, splendidly ornamented, from the upper end of which, above the raised plat-form, where Mrs. Lawrence received the saluta-tions of the guests, General Washington looked down benignantly upon the brilliant scene, Queen Victoria smiling annably, and flags and banners, from the opposite wall

coup d'ail presented by this great gathering, the diamonds and feathers of the mainmas, the gay dresses of the daughters, the many beautiful faces flitting through the mazes of the dances, was extremely fine. Loveliest among the lovely, with a Juno-like part, whose dignity the Olympian Queen could hardly surpass, was the beautiful Duchess of ----, in her younge days acknowledged as one of the most beautiful women in England; simply dressed in white watered silk, with a tiara of pearls above her queenly brow. How beautiful is beauty! are there not more radiant faces, such as shine o light up our dark planet, O glorious lady, the obleness of whose beauty far exceeds that of

Marchionesses, Countesses, Honorables, were there by the score, with their correspondents of the sterner sex. Lord John Russell, the Lord Mayor with his diamond star, the Aldermen, &c About midnight the Duke of Wellington madhis appearance, attended by two footmen in liv-ery. The "Iron Duke," as he is often styled, is now quite the old man, with a hooked Roman nose, dark blue eyes, now much more dim than formerly, and a few gray locks grown very thin. His gait is somewhat feeble, but still dignified, and his manner is quiet and affable. He was warmly cheered on his entrance, and all eyes were instantly turned to the platform where he stood, paying his respects to Mrs. Lawrence. stood, paying his respects to Mrs. Lawrence ; people crowding round the old veteran, with the greatest interest, to get a sight of him.

The dancing was kept up with unflagging spirit until 1 o'clock. Old English Glees and Madrigals being occasionally sung between the cotillons and waltzes. At I o'clock the guest's descended by several passages to the supper-room, where a magnificent collation was laid out on long tables that completely fined the

After supper, dancing was resumed, and was kept up until the morning light was visible in the

Nothing could be more admirable than the whole of the arrangements, and the fifteen hun-dred guests assembled on this occasion seemed all to be equally delighted with the beauty of the scene, and the urbanity with which the honors of the entertainment were done by their hospitable host, who must have expended, in the carrying out of his amicable project, no less a sum

The moral of this beautiful festival, fully an preciated by all present, is soon told, and de-clares that it is much wiser and also much pleas anter for the people of different nations to ex-change balls without cannon rather than with them, and to meet in festive gatherings rather than on the field of battle. So mote it be !

NEW-YORK AND VERMONT. The Station Houses and Bridges-Montgomery

Fort, &c.
Rouse's Peint, N. Y., Saturday, July 19. To the Editor of The Tribune :

The name of Rouse's Point is quite familiar to the readers of The Tribune, but the works already accomplished there, and those in recess of being accomplished may not be so well known. Standing upon the admirably finished platform in front of the "Station House," and looking across the lake from this point, one is forcibly reminded of the spirit and enterprise which characterise the present age. It would seem as if there were no difficulties that human power cannot overcome, and no barriers to the progress of the times which the ingenuity and enterprise of man cannot remove. This Station House, which is occupied both as a hotel and a dépôt for flour and merchandise of all descrip tions, is built upon piles and reaches out into the lake 700 feet from high water mark. The building itself is 600 feet long and nearly 100 feet

wide. The front part, or that which faces the lake, and the whole length of the upper story of the depot part, are occupied as a public hotel, and a most spacious and convenient one it is.— It is surrounded in front and on both sides by wide platform or wharf, where vessels can com and he alongside in a most convenient magnet for loading and unloading. This building alone is enough to challenge the admiration of the be-holder, but it is a small part of the works which are already completed and in the process of con-

Struction.

Much has been said recently about the "Bridge at Reuse's Point," and the subject has provoked to little discussion in the New-York and Vermont Legislatures. But I believe the question is now settled, not, however, until the two wings of the bridge from the New-York and Vermont sides. were nearly completed. The whole distance across the Lake here is about 5,000 feet, and the whole work is done except 500 feet in the chan-nel. This space will soon be narrowed up to 250 feet in accordance with a recent act of the New-York Legislature. To take the cars across this space and leave the channel free for navigation. enormous boat has been built whose le an enormous boat has been must whose length is a trifle over 300 feet and wide enough to lay two tracks upon its deck. This craft reminds one of Noah's Ark, and there may be some other points of resemblance beside its magnitude, for it will bear upon its deck a vast variety of animals, to say nothing of the great amount of inert matter which human power and skill have fashioned into

useful forms, and which will be floated over this channel upon this modern ark.

But the reader may ask if freight can be conveyed across this space upon this boat without "breaking bulk." Surely it can, for who is so beside himself as to limit homes, increase in the second beside himself as to limit human ingenuity and enterprise in this progressive age? A stationary steam engine will do the work and pince the boat in any position desired. Chain-cables will pass round a spool or drum on the boat, and the Schools."

change her position at any moment. These cahies sink to the bottom of the lake so as not to interfere with navigation. But how is the dif-ficulty, occasioned by high and low water, to be overcome? The easiest thing in the world, and yet the boat is not to be raised when the water s low, nor sunk down when the water is high, to bring it on a level with the bridges at either to bring it on a level with the bridges at either side of this channel; neither can the bridges be raised or lowered to accommodate the tide, as your platforms are on the North and East Rivers to accommodate the terry boats. To remedy these difficulties, and overcome these barriers to a free and easy passage for the cars over this space, rails will be so constructed with soints or hinges that they can be raised or lowered, as occasion may demand. While most of the cars are on may demand. While most of the cars are on the level bridges, a slight elevation or pression of the rails, to accommodate the tide, will have but a small effect in retarding or will have but a small effect in retaining or hastening the train. The space occupied by these elevated or depressed rails will be short, and when the cars have passed over this place, they will again find a level on the boat, so that but a few cars will be going down or rising up while the rest of the train is upon a level either on the bridge or on the boat. When the train has passed over, this long boat can be removed by the engine and cables into some slips pared for that purpose, and the navigation of the lake will be left free.

These bridges stretching out into the lake some 2,400 feet each, are a mighty work. The timber is very large, and the bridge is 40 feet wide, and when the slips are on it will be nearly too feet with a stretch of the stretch feet. Some store-houses will be buil 100 feet wide. upon it, and when the whole work is completed it will convince the world that some things can done as well as others. The enterprise is out equally divided between the Ogdensburg ment and Canada Railroad Companies passed over the track from Rouse's Point to Essex, and confess I was agreeably disappointed. The track is much smoother than I anticipated. it being comparatively new, and is built in a very and substantial manner. A great por tion of the way is quite straight, and the engines go with good speed. The bridges across La-maile River and Missisquoi Bay are magnificent works, apparently constructed, not for time, but for eternity. The affairs of the road appear to e conducted with that skill, prudence and en erprise which always characterise New-Eng landers. Connecting with the Vermont and Central on the east, and the Ogdensburg on the vest, this must become a great thoroughfare brough this portion of our country. Now genlemen have expended their money and built these reads, it is really difficult to concerve how the public could do without them. old modes of conveyance, would convulse society to its center, but to go alread seems to be quite natural and easy. As your readers have been already told, probably, ground was broken at Plattsburgh some two or three days ago on the contempleted road from that town to connect at Rouse's Point with the road from St. Johns, which will soon be complete I and the cars run-ning. There is a good deal of spirit and enterrise on this side of the lake, as well as upon the Vermont side. The people are determined to have a Railread from Plattsburgh to St. Johns, to connect with the one from the latter place to Laprairy, and soon one will be built from Laprairy, and soon one will be built from Laprairy. prairie along the western bank of the St. Law rence to a point opposite Montreal, to save tha nine miles of steamboat terrying from Lapraira to Montreal. That will be well, and save time and trouble. But the Railroad enterprise will of stop here. A Railroad must and will be uilt from Plattsburgh to Whitehall, on the west side of Lake Champlain, so that in a shor there will be a continuous track from your City up the Hudson to Albany, thence to Whitehall, Plattsburgh, Rouse's Point, St. Johns, Laprairie New-York City has interest in this enterprise, and the work will be

While at Rouse's Point, and talking with some Montreal gentlemen who had been at the ground-breaking in Plattsburgh, I could not help thinking that the only useless thing I saw was "Montgomery Fort," as they call the unfinished structure now in process of being built about half a mile this side of the Canada line. I should'nt suppose the work was half done yet, and I guess suppose the work was half done yet, and I does it is of no sort of consequence whether it is ever finished or not, for the question of annexation is only one of time. I recken there will never be another war between the Canadians and the Americans. The spirit of the masses on both sides of the line is opposed to such a demonstra-tion, and it grows more and more so every day. Besides, railroads, steamboats and telegraph lines seem to render these forts quite useless if war should ever come.

The Common Schools and the Free Academy. NEW-YORK, Monday, July 21, 1851.

To the Editor of The Tribune

It is always gratifying to all true friends of Public Education to see journals of standing and influence devote a fair proportion of their space to the consideration of subjects which closely concern all, and it is no mere compliment to add that the *Tribine* deserves praise for its successful advocacy of the cause of Universal Educa-

But even in journals which support Popular Education, statements and remarks are some-times made, which, though based upon facts, may have an evil tendency, a tendency to weaken and in ure the very cause they uphold. Your "Items" announcing the results of the semi-annual examinations of candidates for admission into the Free Academy are in my judgment sometimes of this character, although that of Friday last is perhaps less ojectionable than others which have appeared."

It is all right and proper that the results of such examinations be published; but, when the emparative numbers admitted from the various schools are alluded to in terms of unqualified commendation on the one hand, and in those of censure, either expressed or implied, on the other, may it not tend seriously to limit the usefulness of our schools, if those who have their versight are not vigilant. My main object, owever, in this cote, is not to find fault, but to erre the present time when public attention is treeted towards our Free Academy, to endeavor o correct somewhat prevalent views that I coner have a wrong and injurious tendency.

What, gentlemen, was the design or object of the Free Academy. Was it instituted for the he Free Academy purpose of making the Common Schools entirely subservient to it. Was it intended to take the attention of the teachers of the City away com the mass of their pupils to whom nunity are anxiously looking for intelligent and well-informed men to fill the various departments f industry and of commercial life, and to con-cutrate their efforts upon the few who may de-ire to enter the Academy Was its establishire to enter the Academy Was its establishment intended to restrict the branches taught in ment intended to restrict the oranges in our schools to those only upon which candidates are examined, and thus materially lower the standard, and consequently lessen the influence and value of our Common School System! I submit it to you, gentlemen, whether remarks in influential journals, or elsewhere, which tend to the schools by the number of admissions. rade the schools by the number of admission-nerely, have not the tendency to make that In stitution which, if kept in its appropriate sphere, is an honor to the head and heart of our metroplis, a goal for a sort of "scrub-rece" on the part f the teachers—a result which cannot but be jurious to the greater portion of the children onging to the schools.

The Free Academy was doubtless intended as aluable additional stepping stone for such puils as desire (and the pecuniary circumstant of their parents would allow time) to make still greater advances up the 'Hill of Science.-Hence it is a link in the educational chain of our city, but, though important as it is in its proper position, we must bear in mind that it does not constitute the entire chain. It cannot o, it was never expected to do what our Comthe masses—for the very plain reason that much the larger portion of the scholars in our schools never design entering that institution, mu of such leaving the schools to go out into the business of the world even before they have reached the requisite age for admission.

That our teachers should give all the necessary facilities and instruction to such as desire to enter that Institution (be they few or many) I

"In an item in The Tribune, immediately following the preceding semi-annual Examination, after stat-ing the number of admissions from each School, the

readily admit, and cordially approve. But that large numbers there admitted should be the chie end and aim of the labors of teachers and trus tees does not meet my approval as a tax-paying citizen, or as a friend of Education; for, I believe that this would have the natural effect of narrowing the range of our Common School studies down to the mere acquirements for admission. and consequently of diverting into a narrow chan nel that stream of intelligence which should flow from our Common School system (composed of the Schools and the Academy,) and which was intended to beautify and adorn all the various de partments of active lite, mercantile and mechan-

cal, as well as literary and professional In view of the above, it seems to me that there may be Teachers (and Schools) of merit, who have not hitherto felt that their personal or professional salvation depended entirely upon their number of admissions into the Academy, who have successfully labored, and are still la-boring, to impart a fair amount of instruction to all entrusted to their charge, extending at the same time all reasonable facilities to those of their number who are desirous of entering the Yours, &c., Free Academy.

Summer Travel-Valley of the Conhocton-Bird Concert-Buffalo and Conhocton Valley Railroad-Avon Springs.

Correspondence of The Tribun

NORTH CONHOCTON, Steuben Co., N. Y., July 14. Near my Summer home, here in the beautiful valley of the Conhocton, there is a sugar-bush whose noble old maples give shelter to one of the noisiest, gleesomest, happiest mob of feathered roysterers it has ever been my lot to hear. The black bird and yellow bird, the lark, robin

red breast, bob white, and a host of other distin-

guished artists, hold a morning rehearsal there

every clear day, but some of the "boys" of the

orchestra seem to become so uproarious that they

rarely get further than the tuning of the fiddles and flutes in the green-room, before they adjourn, each one to perform a solo on his own hook on fence-post, barn-roof or tree-top. Though I am thus disappointed of a grand dispason, warbled from harmonious throats, I relish the "wood notes wild" of these untamed and uncaged vocalists so much, that I yearn to introduce to our sugar-bush concert some son or daughter of the City who has tired of the sights and sounds of the pare, and would like to be put out to grass for the Summer. Should any be in quandary for some new region to traverse, let me

their summer's pleasure.

Imprimis: Let the sun of a July morning sec you speeding westward over the broad guage of the Eric Railroad. The beauties and the glories of this route, are they not duly chronicled in the Eric Railroad Guide? Therefore, further this

serve as finger-post, and sketch a route whose

beauties will add a fresh flavor to the cream of

reporter suith not.
At the village of Painted Post (of aboriginal memory) leave the rail, pack yourself into a com-fortable corner of the stage coach, and bowl along merrily, over good roads, eighteen miles to Bath, the capital of Steuben County. In this bain, the capital of Steuben County. In this beautiful village a few days can be whiled pleas-antly away, listening to tales of Indian tradition, of border warfare, and of the horses and hounds, the wine and wassail of old Col. Williamson, nce the representative of Laura Pulteney Countess of Bath, the former proprietress of this

After leaving Bath, you pursue your journey by stage up the valley of the winding Conhec-ton. Passing through Avoca, "The vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet," you roll along anid green pastures and grain-crowned uplands, your view bounded on either side by steep hills, covered with the dark green of pine and hemlock. Still ascending to the north for 21 miles, you reach the white cottages of North-Conhoctor, 1,200 feet above tidewater, set like a pearl among a cluster of emerald mountains. Here we draw rein, and take up our quarters in the comfortable hostelry of A. H. Nichols. Per nut us now, fellow traveler, to introduce you to our sugar-bush aforesaid, while our worthy host, a true disciple of old Isaak, will guide you to in numerable mountain brooks, filled to the brim with the finest trout; or should you "admire" to try woodland sports, partridge, woodcock and squirrels can be trotted out in a twinkle. At this point of the valley, there are many

lonely rural views, while a mile's walk to the north suddenly brings you to the brow of a hill, from which you look right down upon a most glorious "compilation" of mountains circling round the head of Canandaigua Lake, with the white spires of the village of Naples peeping out from the green hills at your feet. To the hydropathist in search of pure water and a good cation-to the manufacturer and the farm this valley offers advantages of a superior char acter. The Conhocton winds in here from the west, and just beyond the village is the summit which divides this river (flowing into the Sus quehanna) from the waters which empty into the Genesee and flow northward. The Buffalo and Conhocton Valley Railroad (the shortest route from Buffalo to New-York City) here also turns its course westward. It connects with the Eric Road at Painted Post, and passing through Bath, up the valley, it descends into the valley of the Genesce, along Lakes Conesus and Can ce, and runs through Avon, Leroy and Bata Buffalo, a total distance of 130 miles. It will be substantially constructed, and yet probwill be substantially constructed, and yet probably the cheapest railroad ever built. The Chief Engineer, J. F. Miller, Esq., is rapidly pushing it through, and cars are expected to pass over fifty miles of it in the Autumn. For this important public improvement, the public are especially indebted to the well-directed energies of John Magee, the President of the Company, and Constant Cook, the Commissioner, both of

After tasting the pleasures of rural quiet here After tasting the pleasures of rural quiet here for a season, the traveler can pull up stakes and take the coach (12 miles) to Dansville, at the head of the Genesee valley. From there he passes 30 miles through a highly cultivated region , until the glories of a landscape, never to be forgotten, burst upon him near the lovely vil lage of Genesco, the home of James L. Wads-worth. Near this place, the road passes by the Fall Brook," down whose perpendicular preci-

rove a large body of hostile savages. Nine miles further, the pleasure seeker once more finds a paradise of rest, at the celebrated Sulpher Spa of Avon. Let no suffering and despairing child of affliction yield the hope of recov-ery, until a trial of these wonderful fountains has been made. Cast pill and potion away, and ac-cept the cup and the bath which Nature has con-

Avon is situated about a mile from the Geneses river, and offers all the attractions of beautiful scenery, delightful walks and drives, and fash-ionable society. Of the several springs (each differing in its combinations and temperature, whose healing waters gush lavishly forth, the Lower Spring " seems to be more frequented and more effectual in its general operation. Dr. Francis, who has for many years recommended these waters, gives a decided preference to this spring. The temperature is from 45 to 47 Fahr, and the specific gravity 10.018. Its turic acid, but is more bitter and saline. As it issues from the fountain, it is limpid, transpant, and somewhat sparkling. There is a strong rehability that indine and bromine enter into it composition of these waters."

Avon is but 19 miles from Rochester, and may be reached by Railway from Albany. All the comforts, luxuries, accommodations and emovments which attract the visitor to Saratoga, can e realized at the various hotels.

Will not some overtasked brain, or canned dier follow the route which I have thus hastily

"While yet you breathe, away , the rural wilds Invite the mountains call you, and the vales. The woods the streams, and each ambrosial breeze That fans the ever undulating sky." B.

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE EN-

COURAGENEST OF INDUSTRY .- Extensive preparations are being made for the next Exhibition of this Society. The rooms rented for the purpose, says the Providence Journal, are the finest for such purposes in New England, and steam power will be provided in case machines of such value and interest are offered as will justify the expense. If the season prove propations, the Horticultural Exhibition will unquestion also be the test ever made there.

Association in England.

Sin: I have received a communication, dated the 3d inst , from one of the promoters of Workingmen's Associations in London, from which I send you some paragraphs which will doubtless be interesting to many of your readers, and may, I hope, be useful to the Association Cause:

"The Council of Promoters and Central Board of the Society for promoting Workingmen's Associations,) go on pretty much in the same routine in which you left them , the lectures which have been given by the Society have been, on the whole, very successful, especially Kingsley's.

"We have added several names to our list of Promoters, principally those of young Barristers and Parsons , and to the Association a Piano-forte Maker, a Tailer and two Builders. Several country Associations have also joined the Central Board. The financial position of all the Associations, with one exception, is satisfactory.

"The Central Agency, Protective Store,) established by Mr. V. Neale, extends its business steadily in the country; it supplies a good many of the Northcountry stores with groceries, but its London trade ig not as yet successful.

"We are now in hot water; all the respectable papers (weekly ones principally) are attacking us for the following cause "Mr. Drew, the Clergyman of the Church in Char-

lotte-street, had for some time attended the meetings of the Council and shown much good will toward us, but he had not absolutely joined the Society. About two months since he projected a set of lectures in his Church, and asked Mr. Maurice" to deliver one of them, which he consented to do. Soon afterward, Mr. D. told Mr. M. that he had read Kingsley's Works with great pleasure, and that he wished Mr. K. to take one of the course of Lectures, of which the subject was, 'the Message of the Church to La-boring Men.' Mr. M. warned Mr. D. that Mr. K.'s opinions on that subject were strong, and that he was not the sort of man not to speak them out. The result was that Mr. K. appeared in the pulpit at the appointed time and preached a splendid sermon on the subject of Christ in the Symagogue at Nazareth-Luke iv. verses 17, 18, 10-inculcating, as might have been expected, that the message of the Church to the laboring man is Freedem, Equality, and Brotherhood. No sooner had he finished than Mr. Drew sprang into the reading desk and accused him of preaching untruth, &c. Happily Mr. K. did not say a word in reply, and the congregation separated quietly, although Hancard? others had much difficulty in preventing some workngmen in the body of the church from hissing Mr. D. There has been a great to-do, and we have not heard the end of it yet. I am glad to say that many

parsons justify all Mr. K. said. "There is a great movement going on just now among the amalgamated Iron trades. Newton, whom you introduced to us, is the moving man, They are thinking of taking some enormous iron vards at Liverpool-the owner of which has just failed- and working them on cooperative principles. Mr. V. Neale has drawn up the plan and he, Mr. Ludlow and I are to be three of the trustees. I hope it may be worked out. The sum required is heavy even for such a body as the Iron trades to raise-not less than £40,000.

"Mr. Greeley has been so much occupied that he has not had much time for us. I aked him amazingly, what I saw of him.'

It is very cheeging to hear that practical Association is pursuing its onward cause steadily and slowly. I have more faith in such sort of progress in England than I should have in anything more rapid. Their Protective Store will be the basis of an extensive system of allied stores throughout all the country.

May I be allowed to observe here-apropor of the Farmers' Protective Store at Weedsport, of which you spoke in one of your late numbers, wishing that the projectors might succeed and be enabled to establish a house in New-York-that our friends in Weedsport will find quite enough to do at home, and that the establishment of a house at New-York can only be carried out by the friends of Association in this city; that such a house must not depend on one locality, but that it must supply, on Protective principles, all the Protective Stores and Associations of the State, and even those of other States and Countries, with such articles as the New-York market can furnish, more advantageously than each locality could furnish them , that such a house must have at command a capital enabling it to purchase on the best terms, and to avail itself of all the opportunities of the market , and that it must be in the hands and under the supervision of men whose so cial position and right to public confidence will be guarantees that it will be justly and wisely admin-

I have great pleasure in being able to inform the nembers of the Society at Weedsport, and all other persons who are friends of the Associative move ment, that I believe that such men can be found, that they are both able and willing to establish such a house, and that it will be established; and I earnestly request all who can aid this great work, either by counsel or otherwise, to communicate with me or with your journal.

The above report relative to Mr. Kingsley's sermon may be depended on, as the writer of the letter quoted was present, is a personal friend of Mr. K. and entirely above giving a false coloring to it. I presume from the tenor of the article signed " Clericus," in to-day's Tribune, that the writer of it would be highly gratified by perusing the works of Mr. Kingsley. If he will send his address to me your office. I will forward to him a set of the " Tracts on Christian Socialism," written and published by the Society for promoting Workingmen's Associa-

The fact of the Iron Trades having chosen three gentlemen of that Society as Trustees for business at Liverpool is a proof of the confidence the Workingmen have in them-a confidence well deserved. C. SULLY, 11 Fifth-st. N. Y.

President of the Council of Promoters, a Church of England Clercyman, and Lecturer of History and Lecture threat King's College, London.
 + A Church of England Clergyman.

The New-Jersey Ten Hour Law and Paterson Strike.

PATERSON, Saturday, July 19.

To the Editors of The Tribune ; I have read the article in relation to the Pat-

erson strike published in your paper of this date, signed M., which discovers the same unpardonable ignorance of the subject as his article published on the 11th inst. He still contends that the machinery in this city is interior to that in the Eastern States, and asks whether "E. will contend that it is not slower " Now, it is a no-torious fact that the mills in Paterson spin more yarn according to the number of their spindles, and the time they run, than any other mills in this country. In fact, we think that Paterson may safely challenge the manufacturing world. to show a larger production from the same number of spindles, running the same length of time. It is chiefly owing to improved and efficient ma-chinery that the Paterson spinners have been enabled to run their mills only 11) hours per day for the last 10 years, and successfully compete in the market with Eastern and other manufac-turers, who run their mills from 12½ to 14 hours

The Paterson spinners are not afraid of falt. The Paterson spinners are not alraid of lair competition from any part of the Union, and are willing even to give the Eastern spinners an hour per day longer time. But when they are required to work only 10 hours per day, while other mills are working 13, and sending their goods to the same market, the difference is altogether too great to be contended against; and it seems to me that any full grown man who looks seems to me that any full grown man who looks at the subject at all should be able to under-

stand it.

When the interest on the investment, the water rent, insurance, and other incidental ex-penses of our establishment are taken into con-sideration, a difference of 11 hours per day of running time would make a difference in the cost of the goods turned out of from 20 to 25 per cent. on the amount of the daily wages paid. It is preposterous to suppose that the ham's aregoing to submit to any such reduction as this in their wages. And until it is shown how the manufac-